Another step then taken was the removal of restrictions that existed on the freedom of the press and the platform. The Press laws in the State were brought in line with those of British India. To-day there are in existence in the State over 60 newspapers and periodicals.

After the enquiry into grievances had been completed, a reforms conference with Mr. Glancy as President was held to give effect to His Highness' desire to associate his people with the administration of the State. The result of the recommendations made by the conference and the Franchise Commission under the chairmanship of the late Sir Barjor Dalal, Kt., I. C. S. (Retired), was the establishment in 1934 of the Jammu and Kashmir Praja Sabha. A very low set of franchise qualifications was adopted, and the right of vote was at once given to about 6 per cent. of the population, including a number of women.

The Constitution then introduced permitted the asking of questions, moving of resolutions, introduction of Bills as also discussion of the State Budget. The Sabha consisted of 75 members, over 60 of whom were non-officials, 33 of them being elected. This Constitution remained in force until 1939, when His Highness the Maharaja Bahadur was pleased of his own accord, to sanction further constitutional advance by a proclamation issued on the 11th of February 1939.

The main features of the new constitutional advance were that :—

(a) the elected element in a house of 75 members was raised from 33 to 40 ;

(b) the Sabha was given the right of electing a Deputy President from amongst its non-official members ;

(c) provision was made for the appointment of non-official members as Under Secretaries to work with His Highness' Ministers and ensure closer association between the Government on the one side and the members of the Praja Sabha and the constituencies on the other ;

(d) the Sabha was given the right to vote, except with regard to a few non-votable items, on the demands made by Government for Budget appropriations ; and

(e) the Sabha was given the right of passing all legislation pertaining to taxes, as distinguished from fees and penalties.

[i.e. after an outbreak of communal troubles in 1931 -- Analyst]

6:India G-3 (1931)1933 AVI Kashmir AVI

defect in Census literates compared to girl students who have probably fought shy of recording themselves as literate in the Census schedule. Another and more reasonable cause of this discrepancy in figures may perhaps be found to lie in the large number of widows and women above 20 who flock to schools in the hope of succeeding in securing an appointment on completion of studies and thus escaping from the economic distress of the home. Such students have naturally fallen in the '20 and over' group.

281. Technical Education.—This aspect of the activities of the State is controlled by the Director of Industries. The number of technical institutes in the year 1987-88 Vikarmi was 9 compared to 1 in 1921 A. D. The total number of scholars at these institutions was 484 compared to 81 in 1921. The expenditure incurred on technical education has similarly advanced from about Rs. 77,000 to Rs. 103,621. Rs. 5,424 are granted by way of scholarships. This advance in technical education has led to the creation of industrial atmosphere and the development of small scale industries. About 18 Willow works have been opened at Srinagar, Anantnag and Baramulla. Almost all the public schools recruit their drawing teachers from these institutions. The Public Works Department has been supplied with a number of trained Sub-overseers by the technical institutes.

Upto the end of 1923 there was only one institute *viz.* Sir Amar Singh Technical Institute at Srinagar. In 1981 Shri Pratap Technical School was opened in Jammu. In 1983 two schools were opened at Samba and Anantnag. In 1984-85 schools were started at Mirpur, Baramulla and Kishtwar. In 1986-87 a school was sanctioned for Bhadarwah. This expansion took place in accordance with the announcement of His Highness the Maharaja Bahadur of opening technical schools in the more important centres of the State on the auspicious occasion of Raj Tilak.

282. Literary Activity in the State.—The decade proved eventful in this respect as well. The State Gazette continued playing its role as before. The number of subscribers, however, dwindled to 377. The outstanding event of the decade was the success of journalism in finding a couple of votaries in Mr. Mulk Raj Saraf, B. A. and Pandit Ganga Nath, B. A. They successfully started the first weekly in the State "The Ranbir" which was a poineer achievement. It was founded in June 1924 and its popularity can be judged from the fact that it has the largest circulation in the State and the number of its readers is considerable. The example set by the Ranbir has proved infections and several Weeklies have now been started while others are about to be started. The Amar, the Pasban, the Sudarshan, the Vitasta, the Vasudha, the Tarjaman, the Aftab and the Martand, the birth of the last two being shortly expected, shows how fast the enterprising amongst the literate are being possessed by the journalistic spirit. There is, however, no English paper run in the State so far and the deficiency is met with by importing papers from outside. The circulation of some of the outside papers is given in the margin. The figures for all the papers are not available but according to the information supplied by the Post Master General, Punjab and North Western Frontier Circle, the total number of newspapers carried on postal lines from 1st April 1930 to 31st March 1931 was 382,610. The number of letters issued during this period was 1,161,382, the postcards numbered 1,783,194, Registered letters 122,924, Packets 203,358 and Parcels registered and unregistered 104,146 making a total of 3,757,614. As regards publications in the State private effort was not conspicuous and the books and reports published were generally State documents or Panchang Patrikas of the Pandits and

Tribune	450
Bombay Chronicle	2
Vir Bharat	812
London	6
Pratap	840
Milap, ...	4,000
Civil and Military Gazette	20
Times of India	250
Mysore Economic Journal	4
Modern	7
Hindustan Times	10
Aj	20

204 a description of their number will not prove an indication of the expansion or otherwise of literacy.

212 **283. Comparison with other States and Provinces in India.**—Comparison are odious and the present is more so. In matter of literacy the Jammu and Kashmir State has no pretensions to a high place among the Provinces and States of India. In comparing our figures with those of others we are removed by a short distance from Gwalior and Hyderabad States and Bihar and Orissa, the United Provinces, Baluchistan, Rajputana States and Central India Agency States are not much ahead of us and we hope to catch them in the next decade. As regards the Provinces of Burma, Bombay, Bengal, Madras, Ajmere Marwar and States like Cochin, Baroda, Mysore and Travancore we do not seriously think of competing with them as rivals as they have the advantage of having been equipped for the race many decades before we girt up our lions for it. A serious handicap to the spread of literacy in the State, however, is the mountainous nature of the country leading to difficulty of communications which is mainly responsible for its low literacy. The houses in the hilly parts of the State are scattered, sometimes separated from each other by miles together, making it impossible to cater satisfactorily to their individual educational requirements.

Province or State.	Proportion of literates per 1,000 aged 5 and over.		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.
Assam	91	122	23
Bihar and Orissa	20	32	8
Central Provinces	60	110	11
Punjab	89	32	18
United Provinces	84	94	11
Baluchistan	42	73	11
Bengal	116	180	22
Burma	267	390	144
Bombay	168	174	32
Madras	108	187	30
Ajmere Marwar States.	108	202	30
Gwalior	47	78	11
Hyderabad	47	82	10
Rajputana	44	96	11
Central India Agency	32	62	9
Baroda	300	331	79
Cochin	227	460	229
Mysore	186	274	92
Travancore	288	428	160
Jammu & Kashmir State	40	79	6

In comparison of figures of English literates also we stand to lose. The Baroda State has 28 male and 2 female literates in English, per mille of the population, Cochin has 58 and 16, Bengal 43 and 5, Burma 21 and 5 and Madras 26 and 4 against 10 and nil of Jammu and Kashmir State.

284. Comparison with Foreign Countries.—Part (i) of the marginal table gives figures of illiteracy above the age of 10 for the Jammu and Kashmir State & for the foreign countries noted therein. As a whole the volume of illiteracy prevailing in the State is lighter than that prevailing in Egypt and slightly greater than that in Mexico and Portugal. With the United States of America, Belgium, Estonia, France, Hungary and Australia no comparison is

Part (i).

Country.	Percentage of illiterates 10 years & over.			
	Census year.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
Jammu and Kashmir State	1931	87·9	80·1	96
Egypt	1927	85·7	78	93·4
United States of America	1930	6·0	6·0	6·0
Mexico	1921	64·0	61·7	67·3
U. S. S. R.	1926	49·7	39·1	59·9
Belgium	1930	7·6	6·6	8·6
Bulgaria	1926	39·7	29·3	49·9
Spain	1930	43·0	39·0	46·8
Estonia	1922	10·8	7·2	14·0
France	1926	5·9	5·1	6·7
Greece	1928	42·9	29·6	56·0
Hungary	1930	17·0	12·3	21·3
Italy	1921	30·6	22·8	38·4
Portugal	1930	65·2	59·0	71·1
Australia	1921	2·7	2·1	2·3

[1 [Errata: read "Bombay"; cf. errata sheet, p. 330, category 11c.—Analyst]